

N.H. Coastal Watershed Invasive Plant Partnership

Meeting Minutes

March 5th 2009 9-12 US Forest Service Field Office, Durham

Attendees:

Fred Borman (unh), Chris Powles (sca-nrcs), Chris Cabot (nh audubon), Doug Cygan (nhdamf), Rachel Johnson (unh), David Burdick (unh jel), Doug Bechtel (tnc), Brooke Smart (nrcs), Florence Peterson (usfs), Kevin Lucey (nhcp), Dawn Genes (lamprey river advisory group), Brian Eisenhauer (unh)

Guest Speaker:

David Rousseau, Director of New Hampshire Division of Pesticide Control

I. Invasive Plant Control Tracking:

An Excel spreadsheet was developed that would be used by CWIPP Partners and other invasive plant control practitioners to track invasive plant control projects. The spreadsheet tracks who, what, when, where, and how of invasive plant control projects. The purpose of the spreadsheet is to find out who is doing what where, and also to start tracking effectiveness of control. Ultimately this type of information will be important in tracking partnership activities. Kevin presented the spreadsheet and solicited comment from the Partnership. Many comments were received. **Action:** Kevin will incorporate the edits and distribute to the partnership for use by growing season 2009.

II. Updates from Subcommittee

- a. ***Treatment, Control and Disposal Subcommittee.*** Draft Factsheets for pepperweed, knotweed, phragmites, buckthorn, and loosestrife are currently under review by subcommittee. The subcommittee will perfect the aforementioned factsheets before moving on to other plants. **Action:** The subcommittee will meet on Thursday March 19th at 1 pm at the USFS office in Durham
- b. ***Plant List Subcommittee.*** The subcommittee is compiling plant lists and classifications from invasive plant groups in nearby states including MA, VT, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, IPANE, etc. The subcommittee is narrowing the list and determining classifications for NH such as: present -in low abundance, widespread, and not yet present.

III. Project Status-

a. Odiorne Earth Day- Volunteer Workdays.

Seacoast Science Center is organizing a volunteer workday on April 22, 2009. Timberland Inc. is expected to provide 250 volunteers and equipment for those volunteers. The CWIPP Partners expressed interest in participating. Fred Borman inquired whether certified chainsaw personnel were needed. **Action:** Kevin to follow-up with SSC volunteer coordinator and will inform partnership of the next steps.

b. Odiorne Coastal Pitch Pine Restoration:

The Rockingham County Conservation District is working with NH Parks to control honeysuckle, bittersweet and buckthorn in open ledge habitat at Odiorne Point State Park and to restore coastal pitch pine forest. **Action:** The RCCD will develop an RFP and hire a contractor to develop a restoration plan and implement invasive plant control strategies. Fred Borman suggested looking into the State nursery for sources of pitch pine.

c. Update from The Nature Conservancy

Doug Bechtel reported that The Nature Conservancy has suffered some serious blows as a result of the flagging economy. Their national weeds program has been cut entirely, which means that WIMS (Weed Information Management System) is no longer supported at a national level; however, the program will be available as freeware. In addition, TNC is determining the fate of the TNC Weeds website. The NH Chapter has also been forced to reduce staff.

INVASIVE PLANT SPEAKER SERIES

David Rousseau, Director of New Hampshire Division of Pesticide Control spoke about “**Revisions to NH’s Pesticide Rules and Navigating the Permitting Process**”. Contact Kevin Lucey for copies of the presentation.

Next Meeting: April 2 at USFS Office in Durham- 9-12

- **9:00-10:30: Steering Committee Meeting**
- **10:30-12:00: Invasive Speaker Series:** Chris Mattrick will speak about the Non-Native Invasive Species (NNIS) program on the White Mountain National Forest: species, successes, hurdles, and starting a Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA)